🇺🇸 Official website of the Department of Homeland Security

SEVIS HELP HUB
Termination Reasons

TERMINATION REASONS

Last updated: April 9, 2025

Quick Links:

- Student Termination Reasons Available in SEVIS to DSOs
- Dependent Termination Reasons Available in SEVIS to School Officials
- SEVP-Only Termination Reasons

This job aid is a quick reference for termination reasons noted in the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS).

Expand All | **Collapse All**

Student Termination Reasons Available in SEVIS to DSOs

SEVIS Help Hub Navigation

Student Records

Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP)

Dependents

Request/Authorizatio Details

Sample Form I-20

Student Information

Certificates of Eligibility

Ex 7 - Declaration of Michaele Hofmann - 001

🇺🇸 Official website of the Department of Homeland Security

Absent from Country for Five Months	• The student is known to be outside the United States. • The student has been outside the United States for five months or longer. **Note:** Do not use this reason for: • A leave of absence – use Authorized Early Withdrawal. • A student who fails to enroll after a break or vacation – use Failure to Enroll.	Complete Program Terminate a Student **Termination Reasons** Corrections and Correction Requests F/M Status
Authorized Drop Below Full Course Time Exceeded	Both of the following statements are true: • A reduced course load (RCL) was approved by the DSO for the student for the previous session. • The student did not enroll for a full course of study when the approved RCL period ended.	F/M Student Employment Manage Program Dates, Registration and Course Load Transfers Update Student Records
Authorized Early Withdrawal	The following statement is true: • A request to withdraw from a program of study was approved for the student by a DSO. This reason is also used if: • The student will interrupt studies for the term.	SEVIS Basics School Records

Ex 7 - Declaration of Michaele Hofmann - 002

5/11/25, 2:53 PM
Case 5:25-cv-05035-KES   Document 29-7   Filed 05/12/25   Page 3 of 21 PageID #: 217
Termination Reasons / Study in the States

🇺🇸 Official website of the Department of Homeland Security

| | the term.

Note:

- F-1 students must leave the United States within 15 days of the termination date. This grace period does not apply to M-1 students, who must depart immediately.

- Do not use this reason to terminate a student leaving the United States during a period of earned vacation. Instead, change the next session start date on the Registration page in SEVIS to reflect the next date the student is expected to enroll. |
| Change of Status Approved | The SEVIS record is in Active status and **any** of the following statements is true:

- USCIS approved the student's change of status out of F or M status.

- USCIS approved the student's adjustment of status to Permanent Residency.

Note: SEVIS will note this termination reason when the CLAIMS interface indicates USCIS approved a student's change of |

Ex 7 - Declaration of Michaele Hofmann - 003

🇺🇸 Official website of the Department of Homeland Security

| Change of Status Denied | **Students Changing to F or M Status:** DSOs should not need to use this reason. Prospective F or M status students should not be registered in SEVIS until USCIS approves the change of status to F or M status. The student's record should remain in Initial status until the adjudication is made.

Note: SEVIS will automatically terminate the nonimmigrant's SEVIS record for the reason above when the CLAIMS interface indicates a denial of the change of status. If it does not, terminate the record, use the reason, and explain what happened.

Students Changing from F or M Status to another: The SEVIS record is in Active status and all the following statements are true:

- The student applied for change out of F or M status.
- USCIS denied the application to change status.

Note: SEVIS will note this reason when it auto-terminates a record |

Ex 7 - Declaration of Michaele Hofmann - 004

Case 5:25-cv-05035-KES   Document 29-7   Filed 05/12/25   Page 5 of 21 PageID #: 219

🇺🇸 Official website of the Department of Homeland Security

🇺🇸 Official website of the Department of Homeland Security

Change of Status Withdrawn	this reason. Prospective F or M status students should not be registered in SEVIS until USCIS approves the change of status to F or M status. The student's record should remain in Initial status until the adjudication is made. **Note:** SEVIS will automatically terminate the nonimmigrant's SEVIS record for the reason above when the CLAIMS interface indicates a withdrawal. If it does not, terminate the record, use this reason, and explain what happened. **Students Changing from F or M Status:** The SEVIS record is in Active status and all the following statements are true: • The student applied for change from F or M to another nonimmigrant status. • The application for the change of status was withdrawn by the student. **Note:** SEVIS will note this reason when it auto-terminates a record because the USCIS withdrawal was received through CLAIMS.
Death	The student died.

🇺🇸 Official website of the Department of Homeland Security

	died.
Denied Transfer	All the following statements are true: • The student is an M-1 student. • The student's SEVIS record indicates a request to transfer. • The student filed Form I-539 with USCIS for approval to transfer to new school. • USCIS denied the Form I-539 approval to transfer. • The program end-date at the old (transfer-out) school is in the past or the student began studying at the new (transfer-in) school. • The SEVIS record is in Active status. **Note:** SEVIS will note this reason when it auto-terminates a record because the USCIS denial is received through the CLAIMS interface.
Expulsion	The student was expelled from his or her current program of study.
Extension Denied	All the following statements are true: • The student is in M-1 status.

Ex 7 - Declaration of Michaele Hofmann - 007

🇺🇸 Official website of the Department of Homeland Security

	- The student filed Form I-539 with USCIS for approval to extend the program of study. - USCIS denied the Form I-539 request to extend the program of study. - The program end-date is in the past. - The SEVIS record is in Active status. **Note:** SEVIS will note this reason when it auto-terminates a record because the USCIS denial is received through CLAIMS.
Failure to Enroll	All the following statements are true: - The student is an initial or continuing student. - The SEVIS record is in initial or active status. - The student is not in a period of earned vacation. - The student fails to enroll in a full course of study the next session the student is expected. **Note:** SEVIS will note this reason to terminate a student's record if: - The DSO has not registered the student in SEVIS for the term,

Ex 7 - Declaration of Michaele Hofmann - 008

🇺🇸 Official website of the Department of Homeland Security

	Next Session Start Date. **Do not** use this reason if a student cannot enroll because: - The student is suspended – use Suspension. - The student is expelled – use Expulsion. - The student requested an Authorized Withdrawal for that session - use Authorized Early Withdrawal.
Failure to Report While on OPT	All the following statements are true: - The student's SEVIS record is Active - The student is in a period of approved 24-month OPT extension. - The student has not filed the validation report with the DSO (required at 6, 12 and 18 months).
No Show – Manual Termination	All the following statements are true: - The student's SEVIS record is in Initial status. - The student is **not** a Transfer student.

Ex 7 - Declaration of Michaele Hofmann - 009

	States. • The student did not report to the school by the program start date. **Note: Do not** use this reason if a student **is** a transfer student – use Transfer Student No Show.
Otherwise Failing to Maintain Status	Both of the following statements are true: • The student has not maintained status. • None of the other terminations reasons applies. **Note:** Clearly explain how the student failed to maintain status in the Remarks field on the Terminate Student page.
Suspension	The student is suspended from school and can no longer maintain a full course of study.
Transfer Student No Show	Both of the following statements are true: • The student transferred from another school. • The student failed to report to the transfer-in school as required by the program start date.

Ex 7 - Declaration of Michaele Hofmann - 010

terminates a transfer student's SEVIS record because:

- A DSO has not registered the student in SEVIS for the term, and
- The date is 60 days after the program start date.

Transfer Withdrawn	All the following statements are true: • The student is an M-1 student. • The student's SEVIS record indicates a transfer request. • The student filed Form I-539 with USCIS for approval to transfer to a new school. • The student withdrew his or her request to transfer with USCIS. • The program end date at the transfer out school is in the past. • The student's SEVIS record is in Active status. **Note:** SEVIS will note this reason when it auto-terminates a record because the withdrawal is received from USCIS through CLAIMS.
Unauthorized Drop Below Full Course	Both of the following statements are true:

Ex 7 - Declaration of Michaele Hofmann - 011

5/11/25, 2:51 PM
Case 5:25-cv-05035-KES   Document 29-7   Filed 05/12/25   Page 12 of 21 PageID #: 226
Termination Reasons | Study in the States

	• A reduced course load was not approved by the DSO in advance.
Unauthorized Employment	Both of the following statements are true: • The DSO has evidence the student is or was employed. • The DSO knows the student does or did not have work permission for all or part of that employment.
Unauthorized Withdrawal	Both of the following statements are true: • The student withdrew from school or stopped attending classes in the middle of a term. • The student did not get prior DSO approval for the withdrawal from his or her program of study.
Violation of Change of Status Requirements	Both of the following statements are true: • USCIS approved a student's change of status from B-1, B-2, or F-2 or M-2 to F-1 or M-1 status. • The student began his or her full course of study before the change of status was approved by USCIS.

Ex 7 - Declaration of Michaele Hofmann - 012

5/11/25, 2:51 PM
Case 5:25-cv-05035-KES   Document 29-7   Filed 05/12/25   Page 13 of 21 PageID #:
227
Termination Reasons | Study in the States

Official website of the Department of Homeland Security

Reason	Use when...
Child over 21	All the following statements are true: • The dependent is a child of a student. • The dependent is 21 years old. • The dependent's SEVIS record is in Active status. **Note:** DSOs should not need to use this reason. SEVIS should automatically terminate these records on the dependent's 21 birthday. If it does not, use this reason to terminate the record.
Death	The dependent died. **Note:** Do not use this reason if anyone else in the family died.
Divorce	Both of the following statements are true: • The dependent is the spouse of a student. • The student and the spouse are divorced.
Other	Use this option, if the correct termination reason is not in the drop-down list.

Ex 7 - Declaration of Michaele Hofmann - 013

🇺🇸 Official website of the Department of Homeland Security

	provided.
Principal Status Completed	Both of the following statements are true: • The dependent's record is related to a student whose SEVIS record is in Completed status. • The dependent's SEVIS record is in Active status. **Note:** SEVIS automatically terminates dependent SEVIS records for this reason when the student's SEVIS record changes to Completed.
Principal Status Terminated	Both of the following statements are true: • The student's SEVIS record is in Terminated status. • The dependent's SEVIS record is in Active status. **Note:** SEVIS automatically terminates dependent SEVIS records for this reason when the student's SEVIS record changes to Terminated.
Status changed due to J-1	DSOs should **NEVER** use this reason. This termination reasons is

Ex 7 - Declaration of Michaele Hofmann - 014

5/11/25, 2:51 PM
Case 5:25-cv-05035-KES   Document 29-7   Filed 05/12/25   Page 15 of 21 PageID #: 229
Termination Reasons | Study in the States

🇺🇸 Official website of the Department of Homeland Security

| Unauthorized Employment | Both of the following statements are true:

• The DSO has reliable evidence the dependent is or was employed.
• The DSO knows the dependent does not or did not have any form of work permission. |

SEVP-Only Termination Reasons

Reason	Use when...
Exceeded Unemployment Time – DHS Official	A SEVIS adjudicator may note this termination when the following apply: • The student's SEVIS record is Active. • The student is in the first 12 months of approved post-completion OPT and has accrued more than 90 days of unemployment. • The student is in the additional 24-month OPT extension has accrued more than 150 days of unemployment during the

Ex 7 - Declaration of Michaele Hofmann - 015

🇺🇸 Official website of the Department of Homeland Security

Failure to Comply with I-515A – DHS Official	A SEVIS adjudicator may note this termination when the student or dependent did not submit required I-515A paperwork by the deadline.
Failure to Repay the I-901 Fee Chargeback – DHS Official	A SEVIS adjudicator uses this termination reason when the student fails to pay the I-901 fee when SEVP issues a chargeback for a previously cancelled payment.
Failure to Report While on OPT – System Termination	SEVIS notes this termination reason if the following apply: • The student's SEVIS record is Active. • The student is in a period of approved 24-month OPT extension. • The DSO has not updated SEVIS to reflect the student submitted the required validation report. • The date is 32 days after the DSO's deadline to report those students who validated their information.
No Show-System Termination	SEVIS notes this termination reason if all the following statements are true:

Ex 7 - Declaration of Michaele Hofmann - 016

	• The student is not a Transfer student. • The SEVIS record shows the student entered the United States. • The DSO did not register the student in SEVIS. • The date is 60 days past the program start date.
Other	A SEVIS adjudicator uses this termination reason when no other reasons apply.
School Withdrawn	SEVIS notes this termination reason on student SEVIS records when the school loses SEVP certification and is withdrawn by SEVP.
Violation of Change of Status Requirements – System Termination	SEVIS notes this termination reason if the following apply: • The student's SEVIS record is Active. • USCIS sends the change of status approval to F-1 or M-1 to SEVIS via CLAIMS.
Change of Status Approved – System Termination	The SEVIS record is in Active status and both statements are true:

Ex 7 - Declaration of Michaele Hofmann - 017

out of F or M status.

- The new status start date is before the student's SEVIS program end date.

Note: SEVIS will auto-complete the active record to Change of Status Approved, if the benefit start date is on or after the student's SEVIS program end date.
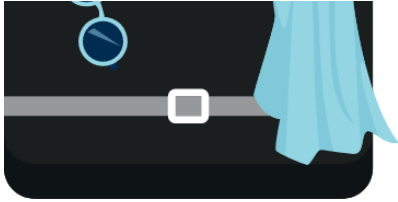
WHAT'S NEW

Try the Facebook Chatbot

Visit the tool on the Study in the States Facebook page to learn how to become an F or M international student in the United States.

[Read more on the blog](#)

Employment

While employed this summer, make sure you have all the relevant information on maintaining your student status, and the steps you must take before returning to school.

[Read more on the blog](#)

ICON GUIDE

See the SEVIS Help Icons on the SEVIS Help Hub for a quick-reference of the icons used in this user guide.

I'm Looking For

🇺🇸 Official website of the Department of Homeland Security

CONTACT US

SEVP Response Center

703-603-3400

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. ET,
except holidays

SEVP@ice.dhs.gov

ICE Tip Line

[1-866-DHS-2-ICE](tel:1-866-DHS-2-ICE)

Was This Helpful?

Please provide feedback on this page.

○ Yes   ○ No

Submit

Ex 7 - Declaration of Michaele Hofmann - 020

Official website of the Department of Homeland Security

About

About Study in the States

About SEVIS

Contact Us

Help

Accessibility

Metrics

Privacy Policy

Site Index

Partners

Department of State

Department of Education

Department of Commerce

Department of Labor

Department of Justice